

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Remarks regarding Restriction Requirement

5 The Examiner has required an election to restrict the prosecution of this application, and the Applicant has selected species six, referring to Figures 6B and 6C, which disclose an air bearing surface with two left deflection rails and two right deflection rails, not just one each as in Figures 2A to 4B, no central deflection rail as in Figures 5, 6A, 7A and 7B and no multiple face or bent face included in a deflection rail as in Figures 4A and 4B. Consequently, the following Claims have been
10 amended:

1. *(currently amended)* *An air bearing surface used in a slider, comprising:*

each member of a deflection rail collection resides in a negative pressure pocket formed between a leading air bearing surface and a central island containing a read-write head;

said deflection rail collection comprises a left deflection rail, and a right deflection rail, a second left deflection rail, and a second right deflection rail;

wherein said left deflection rail is separated by a first gap from said right deflection rail;

20 *wherein said gap is greater than zero distance.*

18. *(cancelled)*

19. *(cancelled)*

20. *(cancelled)*

21. *(cancelled)*

25 22. *(cancelled)*

23. *(cancelled)*

24. (*cancelled*)

28. (*cancelled*)

29. (*cancelled*)

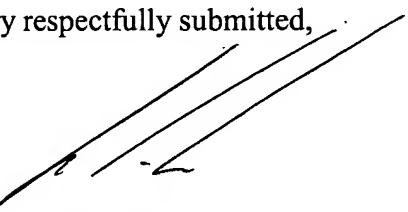
30. (*cancelled*)

5 33. (*cancelled*)

Summary of the Remarks

10 The presented Claims include amendments made to clarify the invention and address the required election. These amendments have been made to further expedite the prosecution of this application and do not constitute new matter, nor do they constitute an agreement by the Applicant to the Examiner's analysis. Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's representative as listed below for a telephonic interview if so doing would expedite the prosecution of the application.

15 Very respectfully submitted,



20
Gregory Scott Smith
Gregory Smith & Associates
3900 Newpark Mall Rd

Reg. No. 38,309
Phone (510) 742-7417
Fax (510) 742-7419

25 Third Floor, Suite 317
Newark, CA 94560